

UNIT 9: ST. NICHOLAS

MANAGEMENT INTENT

State tidelands and submerged lands will be managed for maintenance of fish and wildlife resources, continued use of the area as an anchorage, and some forestry activities. High fish and wildlife ratings exist throughout the unit. For example, there are commercial quantities of geoducks in Port Real Marina and substantial eelgrass beds along northern Baker Island. The offshore area from Kelly Cove north a mile or more is regularly occupied by a fish buying tender and 15 to 35 fishing vessels.

A-frame logging activities will be accommodated along the eastern shore of Noyes Island south of Point San Francisco, and outside crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas. Other A-frame logging areas are also recognized by forestry designations along the northeast shore of Baker Island (south of Muerta Island) and along the north and west shores of St. Ignace Island.

One permanent site will be allowed on the southwest shore of Lulu Island for timber transfer. Additionally, one permanent resource transfer site will be allowed on the northern shore of Baker Island, southwest of Pigeon Island or at an alternative site about one mile east.

The USFS anticipates a need for one permanent log transfer facility north of Kelly Cove. Because of the potential conflict with the fishing fleet's use of the Kelly Cove anchorage, it is preferred that a log transfer site be located as far north of Kelly Cove as possible. Forestry designations have been made and guidelines written to insure that alternative access options are evaluated prior to siting a log transfer facility that conflicts with existing use of the Kelly Cove area as an anchorage. If Kelly Cove is the only feasible log transfer site, guidelines state a preference for upland storage, upland sorting, upland camp facilities, and other measures that minimize interference with existing uses of the Kelly Cove anchorage.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY USES

Refer to the land use designation map for primary and secondary uses and fish and wildlife ratings.

PROHIBITED USES

- Mineral location in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.
- Filling state tidelands and submerged lands for residential purposes.
- Floathomes in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Refer to Chapter 2 for guidelines common to this and all management units. The following guidelines apply to this specific unit.

- **Anchorage.** Use of anchorages depicted on the land use designation map will not be precluded.
- **Alternatives to a Log Transfer Site at Kelly Cove.** Before an application for a tideland lease, permit, or easement for a LTF in Section 12 or 13, T74S, R77E C.R.M., will be approved, the applicant must submit an analysis that demonstrates it is not feasible and prudent to site the LTF in the areas designated for floating A-frame operations (f2) in Section 1, T74S, R77E; Section 31, T73S, R77E; or Section 36, T73S, R78E, C.R.M. This is intended to avoid conflicts with the fishing fleets' use of Kelly Cove for anchorage.
- **Preferred Methods of Log Transfer near Kelly Cove.** If the only feasible and prudent site for a LTF is in Section 12 or 13, T74S, R77E, C.R.M., upland log sort and log storage are preferred, and rafts will be kept to the minimum size feasible and moved frequently to minimize impacts on the fishing fleets' use of the area for anchorage. Other siting and operating measures may be used to meet the objective of this guideline.
- **Upland Camp near Kelly Cove.** To the extent feasible and prudent, either an Upland camp on the west side, or a floating camp on the east side of St. Nicholas Passage will be used to support timber harvest activities in this area.
- **Operation of Transfer Facilities near Kelly Cove and West Lulu Island.** Simultaneous operation of a RTF near Kelly Cove and a RTF on west Lulu Island should be avoided to the extent feasible and prudent to prevent interference with the use of two anchorages in St. Nicholas Channel at once.
- **Access to Private Uplands.** Private landowners are guaranteed access rights across state tidelands. However, fill used to enhance access will not be allowed in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas unless determined compatible through review procedures.
- **Permanent Resource Transfer Facilities on Northern Baker Island.** Only one of the three areas designated F1 along the northern shore of Baker Island will be used for a permanent resource transfer facility.
- **Conflicts Between Commercial Fishing and A-frame Logging.** Managers will use siting or timing restrictions to avoid conflicts between A-frame logging and purse seine hookoff points and to minimize conflicts with other commercial fishing activities.
- **Developed Recreation Facilities in Crucial Habitat and Harvest Areas.** Based on available information, developed recreation facilities are initially determined incompatible within mapped crucial fish and wildlife areas. A specific proposal for a developed recreation facility may be considered for compatibility based on its design or on new habitat information.

NOTES

- Kelly Cove has historically been used to tie up a fish buying tender under a permit issued by the United States Forest Service.
- Two heritage sites are located within this unit:
 - AHRS CRG-115 Kelly Cove Village
 - AHRS CRG-130 Point Mayoral Village

